Remarks

After the current amendments, original claims 1-9 and new claims 10-19 remain under consideration. The amendments made to the specification are for clarification purposes and are believed to be supported by the original disclosure.

Applicant has carefully reviewed the examiners rejection of the original claims, but respectfully disagrees for the reasons stated below. Applicant submits that the invention is characterized in the claims by the arrangment of a wire grid polarizer (44) associated with a quarter-wave retardation (43) in order to polarize the light beams from a light source in a more efficient manner. By way of example as for p-polarized light and s-polarized light, the p-polarized light can pass through the wire grid polarizer, whereas the s-polarized light that cannot pass through the wire grid polarizer may reflect and pass through the quarter-wave retardation to become circular polarized light, which is then reflected by a parabolic lampshade of the light source, and then passes through the quarter-wave retardation again. This so-formed circular polarized light becomes p-polarized light, and able to pass through the wire grid polarizer. Therefore, the illumination device can provide p-polarized light and has excellent polarization conversion efficiency.

With regard to Ito, it is applicant's opinion that the element (40B) in FIG. 7 only refers to a conventional PS converter (14) as shown in Figs. 1 to 3 of the present application, rather than a wire grid polarizer as claimed. Specifically, with reference to Paragraph [105] of Ito, "The polarization conversion element 40B differs from the conversion element (40) in that the numbers of the polarization separation films, the reflection films, and transmissive members disposed thereamong are large, as compared with the case of the element (40) of the first embodiment. However, the rest of the element (40B) does not differ from the corresponding part of the element (40)." Further referring to Figs. 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b and Paragraphs [66] and [67] of Ito, the

conversion element (40) is a conventional PS converter, and therefore, the polarization conversion element (40B) can also be regarded as a conventional PS converter. As a result, taking FIG. 7 of Ito for example, two lens arrays (220, 230) are needed and must be aligned and fit the polarization conversion element (40B), which increases the manufacturing difficulty and cost, and makes no improvements in light illumination efficiency.

As for Davis, in view of Fig. 1 and Column 2, Lines 40-62, the filter 18 is a cholesteric filter comprising a first layer 20 and a second layer 22. The first and second layers 20, 22 each comprise patterned cholesteric liquid crystal polymer films. Thus, each region of the filter 18 transmits only one of the three primary light wavelengths, the other two wavelengths being excluded. This is very different from the claimed invention. In the invention, only p-polarized light can pass through the wire grid polarize, and non p-polarized light is reflected to further transform to another polarizable light.

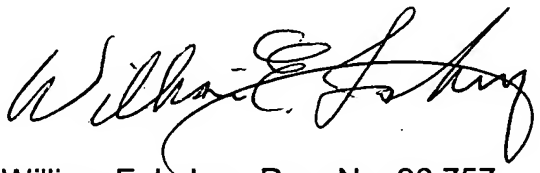
Given the above understanding of the teachings of the prior art cited by the examiner, applicant submits that there is no teaching in the prior art to combine the technology provided by Ito with that of Davis to resolve the polarization issue as claimed by applicant.

In view of the forgoing, applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

Applicant does not believe that a fee is due in connection with this response other than the one month extension of time fee for $120.00. If, however, the Commissioner determines that an additional fee is due, he is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



William E. Lahey, Reg. No. 26,757
SENNIGER POWERS
One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

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